

MTA-6005
4 March 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service
THROUGH: Chief, Operations Group
SUBJECT: Monthly Report -- Tel Aviv Bureau -- February

I. OPERATIONS

A. Monitorial/Editorial

Israel on 4 February forced down a Libyan executive jet suspected of carrying "senior terrorists" to Damascus from a conference in Libya. The bureau filed the IDF spokesman's confirmation of the action and reports on subsequent developments at flash precedence. On 5 February, Embassy Political Section Chief Roger Harrison expressed his thanks to bureau editor [] for keeping the Embassy informed of developments surrounding the Israeli action. STAT

On 17 February, Israeli forces entered southern Lebanon in force to search for 2 Israeli soldiers abducted by members of the "Islamic Resistance" movement following a clash inside the security strip. Bureau instituted an open speaker watch on Israeli media and extended operating hours to cover reporting on the operation. STAT

Reacting to reports of rioting by police in Cairo, bureau placed Cairo Television's first program on open watch. Although bureau coverage of Cairo TV had previously been limited to STAT
cruising, through the combined efforts of bureau Persian/Arabic Monitor [] Hebrew Section Chief [] and STAT
Cruising Monitor [] the bureau was able to cover Cairo TV's first program virtually from signon to signoff on 26 and 27 STAT
February, filing several TV behavior FYI's.

On 5 February, the Israeli Government Press Office announced that it was starting "videotext data bank and electronic mail services" at the "end of the month," permitting subscribers to receive GPO material on a real-time basis via home or office terminals, instead of solely in handout form (see TA061222).
✓ Bureau Engineer [] attended a demonstration of Elnet, STAT
one of the two systems chosen to provide the services. A demonstration of the second system -- Goldnet -- was set up on 19 February at the bureau using the bureau IBM PC and a 1200 baud Hayes Smartmodem supplied by Goldnet. The bureau is currently reappraising the GPO output and will weigh the value of a real-time GPO service against the cost of subscribing to either Elnet or Goldnet.

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B. Lateral Services

In response to a special request from USIS' Media Relations section in the Embassy, the Hebrew section texted three Israeli radio reports on the 19 February news conference given by General Abrahamson, head of the Strategic Defense Institute.

On 12 February, bureau pouched to Headquarters a collection of Hebrew-language tapes assembled from monitored Israeli radios in response to a request from LRB.

II. ADMINISTRATION

A. Personnel

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Teletypist [] gave birth to a 6-lb 12-oz baby boy on 9 February. Mother and baby are well.

Communications Section staffing remained troublesome as newly-hired teletypist [] resigned on 5 February after 2 days on the job. Fortunately, the bureau was able to hire former teletypist [] on a contract basis beginning 11 February and with this experienced help was able to return TDY teletypist [] to London Bureau on 14 February, a week ahead of schedule. Meanwhile, recruiting efforts turned up several highly-qualified candidates and bureau hopes to EOD the selected applicant in early March.

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Jerusalem Radio on 14 February reported a 1.3 percent drop in the consumer price index for January, a decrease unprecedented in over 13 years.

On 23 February, Hebrew monitor [] began a month of military reserves duty.

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III. VISITS

Four IDF officers paid a visit to the bureau on 10 February. The visiting party was given a tour of the bureau and briefed on aspects of bureau coverage.

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III. VISITS (CONT'D)

Several members of the bureau staff, including the bureau chief, deputy chief, engineer, and cruising monitor, visited "Mickey" Gurdus, Israel's one-man monitoring service, on 11 February. Gurdus is credited with many monitoring scoops, including the first reportage on the abortive U.S. mission to rescue the Tehran hostages and on the 1976 Air France hijacking which culminated in the Entebbe rescue operation. Gurdus very graciously briefed the party on his equipment and methods, and took everyone up to the roof of his Tel Aviv apartment to see his antennas, including a newly-installed 3-meter satellite dish.

Ambassador Thomas Pickering paid a brief familiarization visit to the bureau on 20 February.

NEAD linguist Lois Gottesman visited the bureau and the Embassy on 24 and 25 February as part of an orientation and publication procurement TDY.

IV. COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

On 23 February, Cruising Monitor [] participated in a tennis tournament organized for the diplomatic community at the Sportan sports center. Hank took second place in both the men's singles and the men's doubles.

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Chief, FBIS Tel Aviv Bureau

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Attachments: a. Production Report
b. Communications Report

Tel Aviv Bureau Production Report for February 1986

I. TOTALS FROM ALL SOURCES:

TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	231560
TOTAL NON-PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	60590
TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DURING MONTH:	724

	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
II. INPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE: (minutes or issues per week)	6113.00 min.	840.00 min.	56.00 issues

III. OUTPUT FROM ALL SOURCES:
(publishable words per month)

Clandestine Bayrak Radio in Turkish	5910
Clandestine Bayrak Radio in English	940
Clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian	2180
Clandestine Our Radio in Turkish	1390
Clandestine Voice of Turkish Communist party in Turkish	3610

CYPRUS

Nicosia ANATOLIA in Turkish	0
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ISRAEL

Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew	62460
Jerusalem Domestic Service in English	11480
Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew	15660
Jerusalem Television Service in Arabic	4700
Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew	18920
Jerusalem AL-FAJR in Arabic	3590
Jerusalem AL-FAJR in English	1650

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	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
Jerusalem AL-MITHAQ in Arabic			920
Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic			6310
Jerusalem AL-SHA'B in Arabic			1180
Jerusalem AL-TALI'AH Arabic			560
Jerusalem GOVERNMENT PRESS OFFICE in English			1960
Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English			17400
Tel Aviv KOTERET RASHIT in Hebrew			0
Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew			5740
Tel Aviv BEMAHANE in Hebrew			0
Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew			8730
Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew			10210
Tel Aviv HA'OLAM HAZE in Hebrew			0
Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew			2430
Tel Aviv HATZOFE in Hebrew			0
Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew			5540
Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew			8800
SOVIET UNION			
Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Hebrew	640		
Moscow in Turkish	0		
Moscow in Dari	340		
TURKEY			
Ankara Domestic Service in Turkish	23420		
Ankara ANATOLIA in Turkish		1700	
Ankara ANATOLIA in English		3020	

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	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
Ankara ANATOLIA in French		170	
Istanbul CUMHURIYET in Turkish			0
Istanbul HURRIYET in Turkish			0
 UNITED KINGDOM			
London BBC World Service in English	0		
 TURKEY			
Ankara Domestic Service in Turkish	23420		

TEL AVIV BUREAU MONTHLY COMMUNICATIONS REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 86 ATTACHMENT B

1. TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED WAS 231,560 (198,940)
TOTAL NONPUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED WAS 60,590 (63,560)
DAILY WORDAGE FILED AVERAGED 10,434 (8,468)
HIGHEST DAILY WORDAGE FILED WAS 16,310 on 14 February 1986
LOWEST DAILY WORDAGE FILED WAS 3,290 on 1 February 1986
2. OUTAGES ON OUTGOING SKYMUX CIRCUIT TOTALED 2.5 HOURS, 0.05 PERCENT.
OUTAGES ON INCOMING SKYMUX CIRCUIT TOTALED 2.5 HOURS, 0.05 PERCENT.

OUTAGES: 4 February 1986 - Problems with MUX

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3. WORDS FILED VIA TELEX DURING OUTAGES OF THE SKYMUX CIRCUIT: 620

NB. Figures from preceding month in Parentheses.